

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED EXAMINING GROUP 1744

PATENT Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 08364.0022-00000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:

Neil PORTER et al.

Application No.: 09/890,855

Filed: October 31, 2001

For: APPARATUS FOR PRESERVING MICROORGANISMS

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

<u>AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL</u>

In reply to the final Office Action mailed June 3, 2004 (the "Office Action"), Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks. The period for reply having been extended for one month by a request for extension of time and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, this reply is due by October 3, 2004, and is timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.